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Author Timothy Tyson to keynote Wright's Gala

On Thursday, April 30, 2009, The Wright's Center will celebrate twenty years of service to frail elders and persons with disabilities. We are excited that Timothy B. Tyson, senior scholar at the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University and author of Blood Done Sign My Name, has agreed to be our keynote speaker.

Blood won the Southern Book Award for nonfiction, the Grawemeyer Award from the Louisville Presbyterian Theological

Seminary, the Christopher Award, and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Entertainment Weekly placed Blood on its coveted "Must List."

Mark your calendar and look for more information on Mr. Tyson in our next newsletter.

Gala sponsorship opportunities are still available. For additional information, contact Doris Howington, executive

director of The Wright's Center at 252.442.8363.



Timothy B. Tyson, author of Blood Done Sign My Name, will deliver the keynote address at the Wright's Center's 20th Anniversary Gala to be held on April 30, 2009.

Long Distance Caregiving & Family Support

Source of statistical information: National Study by the National Alliance for Caregiving

Long distance caregivers, as a group, manage their care situations with the help of others, primarily relatives. The only group of long-distance caregivers who are most likely to rely on paid caregivers are the 5% in this survey who report they are the only person providing care.

A sibling who lives nearby the care recipient was the most commonly mentioned support for these long-distance

caregivers, with spouses the second most common. Relatives comprised 83% of the help being provided in the care situation. Other relatives who helped were siblings who also lived at a distance (8%), the care recipient's spouse (12%), or another relative. For those who reported that a spouse was present in the care recipient's home, 53% of these spouses were reported to be in either poor or only fair health (most likely because they too are

elderly).

The Wright's Center provides a supervised program of activities that benefit older and/or disabled adults who, because of physical impairments or other ailments, should not be left alone during the day. We provide full-time caregivers the opportunity to maintain employment outside of the home without having to worry about the care of their loved one.

Meet Some Wright's Center Participants

Mary Harrison, age 61, has moved more times than we can count, but she always manages to remain a Wright's Center participant. Ms. Harrison has been a participant for approximately 13 years. She participated in a mock wedding with a suave gentleman (also a Wright's Center participant) that could have been her real groom. What a beautiful day that was for her.

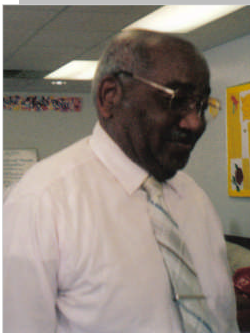


Robert Morrow is 40 years old and had been a Wright's Center participant for four years. As a participant, Robert enjoys daily fellowship through games, meals and field trips. Robert loves coming to the Center; he gets an overdose of laughter everyday.



Willie Atkinson is 71 years old and has been a Wright's Center participant for three years. He was a star performer in our fashion show held earlier this year. Willie enjoys spending time with his friends at the Center and looks

forward every day to playing a friendly game of spades.



The Wright's Center provides a multi-faceted program in a nurturing environment that offers the best care possible for elders and disabled adults.

Bessie Foster, Wright's Center participant, shows off her beautifully decorated Christmas stocking. Participants enjoy creating a variety of colorful items during arts and crafts. Studies show that active and socially involved elders enjoy longer, healthier lives.



The Wright's Center provides a safe healthful, nurturing environment for elders and disabled adults. Educational, cultural and spiritual programs enrich the lives of our participants. Social and

recreational activities encourage the development of friendships. Pictured is **Rose Carroll**. Her son-in-law and grandson bring her to the Center daily.



Transportation for participants to and from The Wright's Center is provided in two ways; family and caregivers, or by Tar River Transit. The Center contracts with Tar River Transit at a rate of \$1.35 per mile for each participant who is a passenger on any given trip. The cost of transportation for each participant traveling by Tar River Transit is \$175 monthly or \$1,575 annually. For those on fixed incomes, transportation costs can be a burden.

You can help. Please make a tax-deductible donation to The Wright's Center to assist our participants with transportation costs. Our participants live in Rocky Mount and as far away as Nashville and Whitakers. Your support is welcome and very much appreciated.



Malcolm Goodman (left) and **Willie Atkinson** arrive at The Wright's Center for a day of scheduled activities. Our program and activities address the nutritional, educational, recreational, social and health needs of all participants.

As you can see, The Wright's Center serves adults of all ages. **Nicholas Randolph**, age 38, is one of our most recent participants. Nicholas is a helper and enjoys performing any task given to him. He doesn't talk much, but he loves to smile and when given the opportunity, you will find him on the dance floor.



Yes! Anyone can bowl. **Carrie Beasley**, Wright's Center participant, gets ready to show her skills on a field trip to the bowling alley.

The Wright's Center provides cost-effective care that will delay or avoid elders being placed in a rest home or institutionalized.



Everyone enjoys receiving gifts. **Emily Smith** shows off her Christmas gift donated by staff member Eunice Brown.

The Wright's Center provides a multi-faceted program in a nurturing environment that provides the best care possible for elders and disabled adults.



William "Billie" Blackley participates in adapted chair exercises. Our supervised program encourages participation in physical activities such as music, movement, and exercise therapy. Social and recreational activities encourage the development of friendships.



\$1000

will provide 7 months of transportation for a participant from a rural area.

\$500

will provide two months of supplies and prizes for arts & crafts, games and activities.

\$100

will provide special music, educational programs or exercise therapy.

\$50

will provide a day at the Wright's Center including transportation and meals.

\$25

will provide one-half day of respite for a constant caregiver.

The Wright's Center, Inc. is the most cost-effective way to provide care and help delay or avoid institutionalization for chronically ill, disabled, or cognitively challenged elders while offering needed respite for caregivers.

☐ **YES**, I want to help The Wright's Center care for needy elders and disabled adults in our community.

☐ Enclosed find my tax deductible contribution of \$_____

☐ I pledge: ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$_____

To be paid: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No./Home _____ Work _____

Please make check payable and mail to:

The Wright's Center, Inc., 501 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount NC 27803
Solicitation License # SL001948

YOU can make a difference!

There's always a need

The Wright's Center, Inc. is always in need of supplies to maintain ongoing activities for our elderly and disabled participants. Following find our Wish List.

- FINANCIAL SUPPORT
- Office furniture
- Lockable filing cabinets
- Computers for participants
- Supplies for Arts/Crafts activities
- Paper products (towels, napkins, tissues, cups, plates)
- Recliners for activity area
- Chairs for activity area
- Carpet for all carpeted areas
- Small trash bags
- Volunteers (Monday through Friday)

Thank you for all that you do!

Spotlight on Ann Sye Wright's Center board member

Ann Batts Sye has been a member of The Wright's Center Board of Directors for nine years. Ms. Sye was born in Tarboro and attended Patillo High School. A graduate of Bennett College, Hampton University and George Washington University, Ann has followed in the footsteps of the Batts family with a career in education. She is an education consultant with the University of Virginia and also consults through her own company.



Ann states, *"Living in a household where my mother had special needs, I understand the need for day care for adults. The Wright's Center is a place where visionaries made a vision come true for those in need."*

An avid volunteer, Ann continues, *"I enjoy serving on The Wright's Center board. Volunteering is a simple way of saying thank you to all who helped me as a child and as an adult."*

Ann and her husband reside in Virginia Beach, Virginia.



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